



Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission
Tuesday, July 22, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Hennepin County Central Library

NCEC member attendees: Debra Behrens, Matthew Dobratz, Eric Gustafson, Andy Hortillosa, Denis Houle, Ishmael Israel, Maleta Kimmons, Brittany Lewis, Kenya McKnight, Carol Pass, Kirk Roggensack, Jeffrey Strand, David Zaffrann and Tessa Wetjen.

NCEC members excused: Doron Clark, Francisco Segovia.

NCEC members absent:

Commission staff: Howard Blin and Cheyenne Brodeen

1. Public Comment:

No members of the public were present to give public comment.

2. Introduction (Action):

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm with Israel in the Chair.

Agenda: Strand moved to approve the agenda with an amendment from Commissioner Lewis to remove her from the Community Connections Conference Workgroup, Wetjen 2nds. Agenda Approved.

3. Recognition of Outgoing Members (Informational):

Summary: Commissioner Israel thanked outgoing Commissioners, Matthew Barthelemy, Saciido Shaie and Henry Jimenez for their time on the commission.

4. Executive Committee Reports (Informational and Action):

Chair's Report: Chair Israel welcomed new commissioners, Debra Behrens, NCEC District 6 Representative, Eric Gustafson, Council Appointee, David Zaffrann, Council Appointee and Maleta Kimmons, Park Board Appointee to the NCEC.

Secretary Report:

A. Minutes:

Motion: Commissioner Strand moved to approve the minutes, Roggensack seconded the motion, Behrens abstains. Motion carried.

B. Attendance Report: Commissioner Strand reported on attendance. 13 members are in attendance. Commissioners Clark and Segovia are excused. Quorum was present.

5. Twin Cities Region Equitable Development Principles (Informational)

Summary: Chair Israel reviewed the tool. He explained that this is a product of collaboration between many agencies in the Twin Cities area. It is currently in draft form

and the tool will be used to help communities prepare to work with planners, developers and government.

Discussion:

- Lewis asked if this tool was created or modeled after something that already existed.
 - Israel responded that part of it was, the group of agencies looked at a similar score card that Richmond, VA had created. Also, the Harrison Neighborhood Organization also had some principles developed.
- Lewis also asked how this will be promoted to communities.
 - Israel responded that he hopes that the word gets out broadly and by rolling this out on both sides of the river, that it will gain lots of traction.
- Hortillosa asked if NCEC as a body was involved in this.
 - Israel responded that he hopes that the NCEC will adopt this and bring it forward for the City to use and work from.
- Gustafson commented that this looked like a good tool after a first read, he also asked who the intended audiences where and if there was a time line for when something like this would be used.
 - Israel responded that this tool would be used by neighborhoods and the community early on so that when developments or projects get proposed they can respond quickly.
- Gustafson also added that there be additional language added to explain who would use this tool.
- Zaffrann asked what size of development this tool would be used for, a large development or a residential house.
 - Israel responded that this tool was developed for larger developments but could be scaled down for residential properties.
- Zaffrann also asked if the group is looking for endorsements to get this adopted?
 - Israel responded that he got some good feedback from the NCEC tonight and will take it back to tweak this tool and come back and ask the NCEC to endorse it.
- Pass commented that there should be some kind of incentive for developers to use this tool, otherwise they will just do what they want.
- Kimmons asked how this document relates to the Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs).
 - Israel responded that this tool is set up to be something that the communities can come to the table vs. something that is agreed upon by communities, developers and government agencies. This can be more concrete.

Motion: Strand moved to refer this document, along with Community Engagement Principles for the Capital Long Range Improvement Committee to the City Department Engagement Task Force, McKnight Seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. Election of Officers (Action):

Summary: Chair Israel explained that there are four seats on the executive committee that the commission is electing tonight, a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a 2nd Vice-Chair and a Secretary. He also shared that the executive committee meets the first week of the month to develop the agenda for that month. He shared that the commission is very interested in ensuring that there is a gender balance on the executive committee. He also noted that Commissioner Clark is still interested in serving on the executive committee, but would rather have a gender balance.

Motion: McKnight moved to request that each person interested in serving on the executive committee give a one minute speech on why they are interested in serving, Wetjen seconded. Motion Carried.

Motion: Hortillosa moved to query each member to see if they are interested in a leadership role, Wetjen seconded, Houle Nay. Motion Carried.

A commissioner raised a question regarding the use of paper ballots for the election of officers, the question was whether or not there was a bylaws change that eliminated the use of paper ballots and replaced the ballots with a roll call vote. The commission agreed that that change occurred.

The slate was Chair, Ishmael Israel; Vice-Chair, Kenya McKnight; 2nd Vice-Chair, Maleta Kimmons; Secretary, Jeff Strand. On a unanimous voice vote the slate of candidates was elected.

Motion: Strand moved to reconfirm Roggensack to serve on the Community Connections Conference Workgroup, Hortillosa seconded. Motion Carried.

7. NRP Policy Board Report

- A. Appointments of NCEC Representatives to NRP Policy Board: The committee held a vote by written ballot. The results of that ballot vote is as follows: Jeffrey Strand, Debra Behrens, Doron Clark, Matthew Dobratz.

8. Committee Task Force Reports:

A. Committee of the Whole

- i. **Equity Steering Committee:** Commissioner Lewis gave an update and shared that all of the Blueprint for Equity Outreach meetings will be finished in September. She also noted that in her absence the group must select a co-chair and new members to the commission are encouraged to join.

Motion: Lewis moves to add commissioners McKnight and Kimmons to the Committee, Hortillosa seconds. Motion Carried.

Motion: Lewis moves to add McKnight as the co-chair of the committee, Strand seconds. Motion Carried.

- B. One Minneapolis Fund Committee:** Kenya McKnight formally withdraws from the committee. There are three open seats on the committee.

Motion: Strand moves to appoint commissioners Kimmons, Zaffrann and Roggensack to the One Minneapolis Fund Committee, Roggensack seconds. Motion Carried.

- C. City Department Engagement Task Force:** The City Department Engagement Task Force has two openings.

Motion: McKnight moves to appoint commissioners Gustafson and Behrens to the Task Force, Roggensack seconds. Motion Carries.

9. NCR Report:

- A. Report on Neighborhood Actions:** Blin stated that a report on actions taken with neighborhood organizations by the NCR Department will become a regular part of the agenda. Blin reported that the NCR Department has recently been working with the Lind-Bohanon, Whittier and East Phillips neighborhood associations to resolve issues regarding the operations of neighborhood boards. Letters have been sent to all of the neighborhoods specifying the actions needed to be taken each case.

Adjourn:

The June 24, 2014 meeting was adjourned by Chair Israel at 7:06p.m.